

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 998

By Pitts

A RESOLUTION to honor and applaud head coach Josh Smith and the Clarksville Academy boys' basketball team on capturing the 2010 TSSAA Class A State Championship.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful high school teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, led by head coach Josh Smith, the Clarksville Academy boys' basketball team achieved an extraordinary level of success during the 2010 season, establishing a record of thirty-six wins and two losses, and winning 2010 TSSAA Class A State Championship, thus becoming the first school from Montgomery County to win a state championship in basketball, and also winning Clarksville Academy's first-ever state championship in any sport; and

WHEREAS, after a stellar regular season and dominating performances in the district and regional tournaments, the Cougars rolled into the state tournament, manhandling their opponents during the state quarterfinals and the state semifinals, and advancing into the Class A State Championship game held at Middle Tennessee State University's Murphy Center in Murfreesboro; and

WHEREAS, Clarksville Academy completed their amazing season by soundly defeating Grace Baptist 82-77 in double overtime and capturing the state championship trophy; and

WHEREAS, the championship game was highlighted by the outstanding performances of Clarksville Academy's Malcolm Smith, who scored twenty-nine points and grabbed fifteen rebounds during the game, and his brother Martin Smith, who made several key baskets and foul shots, helping to seal the championship victory for the Cougars; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of their singular skills and outstanding performances during the state tournament, Malcolm Smith, Martin Smith and Heath Dyer were named to the All State Tournament Team; and

WHEREAS, scoring a total of seventy-nine points during the state tournament, Malcolm Smith also earned Most Valuable Player honors in recognition of his remarkable tournament performance, and boasting an incredible season average of twenty-two points, eleven rebounds, and two blocks per game, he was named Mr. Basketball for the 2010 Class A basketball season, the top individual award given to a player in the state; and

WHEREAS, the leadership and passion for the game of head coach Josh Smith and assistant coaches Jerome Jackson and Daniel Zahn, are without peer; Coach Smith's precepts of playing tenacious defense, controlling the ball on offense, and limiting mistakes were perfectly on display during the Cougars' run to the championship; and

WHEREAS, the young men of the 2010 Clarksville Academy boys' basketball team have displayed ability, teamwork, and perseverance. Team captain Miller Hyams, team captain Heath Dyer, team captain Miles Barger, team captain Andrew Doerner, Malcolm Smith, Martin Smith, Michael Denny, Clay Goad, Austin Luntz, Daniel Huang, Zach Eaton, Ben Marshall, Travis Russell, Montel Lavelanet, Cole Swaffer, Martin Crozier, Nathan Burkhart, and Daniel Clemments, with the help of their coaches, parents, teachers, school administrators, supporters, and many fans, represented their school and the State of Tennessee in fine fashion, displaying peerless character both on and off the basketball court; and

WHEREAS, responding to the Clarksville Academy cheerleading squad's rousing cheers and unrivaled school spirit, the Clarksville Academy fans were also named "Best Fans" for the Class A State Tournament; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Cougars' basketball team were inspired to do their best by Clarksville Academy seniors Brianna Fuller and Sarah Wallace's stirring rendition of the National Anthem, which they beautifully delivered prior to the Class A and Class 3A championship games; and

WHEREAS, the team is especially grateful for the invaluable support of its school administrators, including, Head of School, Kay Drew; Head of Upper School, Colleen White; Athletic Director, Gary Shephard; and Chairman of the Board, Frazier Allen; and

WHEREAS, during this incredible championship season, the members of the Clarksville Academy School boys' basketball team etched their names into the annals of Tennessee sports history; their dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent not only made possible a successful and memorable basketball season, but also surely point toward their success in future endeavors; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate head coach Josh Smith and the Clarksville Academy boys' basketball team for their heralded success on the basketball court and for capturing the 2010 TSSAA Class A State Championship.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.